



PUBLIC NOTICE

US Army Corps
of Engineers
Albuquerque District
4101 Jefferson Plaza, NE
Albuquerque, NM 87109-3435

Fax No. 505-342-3498

cespa-od-r@usace.army.mil

Permit Application No:	Date:
2004 00226	May 10, 2004
Phone:	Suspense Date:
(505) 342-3284	June 1, 2004

In Reply Refer to:

District Engineer, ATTN: CESPA-OD-R

PERMIT APPLICATION UNDER SECTION 404 OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT (33 USC 1344)

Summary of Proposed Project: We are requesting public comment on the following project before the above suspense date. The application is for a permit to place concrete and earthen fills below the ordinary high water mark for a boat ramp extension in Conchas Reservoir near Conchas Dam, San Miguel County, New Mexico. The project will include the extension of one boat ramp in the North Recreation Area of Conchas Lake State Park. Approximately 24 cubic yards (cu. yds.) of dredged material fill will be placed to level the lake bed to meet the existing grade. Approximately 12 cu. yds. of preformed concrete pads will be placed as temporary fill. Depending upon future pool levels, an additional 15 cu. yds. of poured concrete and 6 cu. yds of dredged material will be constructed as permanent fills. Details of the proposed project are provided below.

Name of Applicant: Conchas Lake State Park, P.O. Box 976, Conchas Dam, NM 88416-0976, POC: Mr. Byron Wilson, phone:(505) 868-2270; fax:(505) 868-9641.

Location: The project is located in the Conchas Lake State Park, Cove Campground in the North Recreation Area of Conchas Reservoir near Conchas Dam, San Miguel County, New Mexico, Pablo Montoya Grant (35° 28.1' N Latitude, 104° 11.5' W Longitude).

Description of Work: The proposed project is to extend the existing South Cove Campground boat ramp. The existing ramp is 30 feet (ft.) in width. The proposed boat ramp extension dimensions are approximately 40 ft.

long x 16 ft. wide. Approximately 12 cu. yds. of concrete preformed pads and 15 to 24 cu. yds. of in situ dredged material fill will be required for the proposed extension. The ramp extension will be constructed by using a trackhoe to move dredged material to fill a scour area (approximately 20 ft. long x 10 - 16 ft. wide x 2 ft. deep) produced by propeller wash from boat motors using the existing ramp (See Sheets 3 of 4 and 4 of 4). At the current reservoir pool elevation of 4161 ft. above mean sea level (ft. msl), up to ten preformed concrete pads will be placed in the water to extend the boat ramp. Each concrete pad is 8 ft. long x 8 ft. wide. Two pads will be placed beside each other and five rows of pads will be used to extend the ramp (40 ft. long x 16 ft. wide x 0.5 ft. deep). If recent drought conditions continue and the reservoir's pool level drops below the end of the new ramp extension (to 4151 ft. msl), the temporary concrete pads will be removed and poured concrete will be used to permanently extend the ramp to the water line. The permanent concrete ramp extension will be approximately 40 ft. long x 20 ft. wide x 0.5 ft. deep (15 cu. yds). The concrete will be poured into forms with a thickness of 0.5 ft. after the exposed substrate has dried, been leveled and compacted. An additional 6 cu. yds. of dredged material may be required (20 ft. long x 4 ft. wide x 2 ft. deep) to act as base material for the permanent concrete ramp. The total quantity of fills to construct the temporary extension is approximately 27 to 35 cu. yds. Total quantity of additional fills required for the permanent boat ramp extension will be approximately 21 cu. yds. of concrete and dredged material. (conditions permitting). The total quantity for the project will be up to 56 cu. yds. Work is expected to begin in June 2004 and be completed during the Summer 2004. Work on the permanent ramp extension will occur in 2005 or 2006 if reservoir levels drop.

Purpose and Need: The stated purpose of the project is to maintain access to Conchas Lake for boating activity. This is the last boat ramp in use in the Cove Campground area due to low water levels.

Mitigation Proposed by the Applicant: The work will be conducted during low-water periods. Only the minimum amount of fill materials will be used to install the temporary concrete pads and if possible, the permanent concrete ramp extension. No outside soil or rock fill materials will be used to fill the scour hole.

Plans and Data: Drawings showing the location of the work site and other data are enclosed with this notice. If additional information is desired, it

NEWS RELEASE

may be obtained from the applicant, or from:

William Oberle
Albuquerque District, Corps of Engineers
4101 Jefferson Plaza, NM
Albuquerque, NM 87109-3435
(505) 342-3284

Statement of Findings: The District Engineer has consulted the National Register of Historic Places and no properties listed in the Register are present at the site of the proposed construction. Consultation with the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office (NMSHPO) has not revealed any pending nominations. This constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the District Engineer. It is possible, however, that presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistoric, or historic data may be inadvertently lost or destroyed by the work accomplished under the requested permit. In the event that cultural resources are found, the NMSHPO will be contacted for advice on the appropriate action to be taken.

The following is a list of endangered (E) and threatened (T) species and/or critical habitat (CH) for San Miguel County, New Mexico:

Holy Ghost Ipomosis	<u>Ipomosis sancti-spiritus</u> - E
Black-footed Ferret	<u>Mustela nigripes</u> - E
Mexican Spotted Owl	<u>Strix occidentalis lucida</u> - T
Southwestern Willow Flycatcher	<u>Empidonax traillii extimus</u> - E
Bald Eagle	<u>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</u> - T
Arkansas River Shiner	<u>Notropis girardi</u> - T

Our preliminary review indicates this project will not impact any threatened or endangered species or critical habitat.

The applicant has applied to the New Mexico Environment Department for certification that this work is in compliance with applicable State water quality standards. The applicant is responsible for obtaining all other required Federal, state, and local authorizations for this work.

In accordance with environmental procedures and documentation required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, an environmental assessment will be prepared for this project. Upon

completion, the assessment may be seen at the Albuquerque District Office, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, at the address given above.

Comment: Any comments concerning this project should be received by the District Engineer no later than **June 1, 2004**. Comments received after the end of the Public Notice comment period will not be considered. However, more time may be given if a request, with a valid reason, is received prior to the suspense date. The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed below. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The evaluation of the impact of this activity will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, EPA, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act. All factors relevant to the proposal and the cumulative effects will be considered; among these are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

At the request of the Department of Public Safety, Emergency Management Preparedness, State Coordinator, we are sending a copy of this notice to the local flood plain administrator to apprise the administrator

of proposed development within their jurisdiction. In accordance with 44 CFR Part 60 (Flood Plain Management Regulations Criteria for Land Management and Use), participating communities are required to review all proposed development to determine if a flood plain development permit is required. The local Flood Plain Administrator is required to perform this review for all proposed development and maintain records of such review. You may contact:

Department of Public Safety
State Floodplain Coordinator
Attn: Mr. Bill Borthwick
email: wborthwick@dps.state.nm.us
Phone: 505-476-9617

If the District Engineer determines that the project complies with the 404(b)(1) guidelines, he will grant the permit unless issuance would be contrary to the public interest.

Any person may request a public hearing. The request must be submitted, in writing, to the District Engineer within 21 days of the date of this notice and must clearly set forth the reasons for holding a public hearing.

Dana R. Hurst
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army
District Engineer

Enclosure